



Meeting Time & Place: Tuesday, December 21st, 2010, 8:30 a.m. at Big Sky Bistro & Art Bar in Polson.

In Attendance: Theresa Jones of St. Luke Community Healthcare, Gib Turner of Lake County Community Development Corporation, Norma Umphress of Coalition for Kids/Big Sky Bistro & Art Bar, and Todd Erickson/Whitney Cantlon of Lake County Job Service. * Not enough members in attendance to do any voting.

Treasurer's Report: Via email from Jessie. Our current balance is \$6,303.78.

Old Business:

Review and Approve Minutes: Not enough members present.

Top Five "Hot Topics" for Employers: Card Sample: Todd and Whitney will bring to January meeting for discussion.

New Business:

Todd:

JMG: Mark Rochin from Polson HS has class of 4 at-risk youth interested in JMG and would like JSEC's help in reviving that. Students have to reach targets (such as improving grades and attendance) to be eligible. Todd presented last week to the class to give them more information. He feels this is a great starting place for more soft skills training for our local high schoolers to help improve our applicant pool. (JSEC used to have a more active role in that). Glad to see it coming back, feels it's an important role for JSEC in our community.

Career Fair: Todd mentioned the upcoming Career Fair at SKC (2/22/11). We partner with SKC to put this on. Our role is to facilitate speakers, assist with fundraising for booklet, organize and publish booklet. This is a good practice run for high schoolers and college students on how to network and take advantage of workshops, how to dress, get resume reviews/advice, etc. Theresa mentioned that each year more employers participate, but seems to be hit and miss with the public, although it is typically well attended. Good PR for business. St. Luke's doesn't typically get a lot of applications from the Career Fair, but they did hire one Surgical Technician from there, which can be a difficult position to fill. Gib brought up Carol Cunningham's Small Business Start Up Project and thought that might be a good topic for a booth as well.

SHRM Membership: Not enough members present to vote on.

Partnership with Chamber: Will discuss at next meeting.

Manager's Report: Debbie was unable to attend.

Coalition for Kids: Norma presented to the group. Norma is the Program Coordinator at the Coalition and the Bistro manager. She has developed a “Leadership Development Through Art” program, which is offered to 15 through 20-year-olds, free of charge. It is designed to bring out the leader within each student. Norma also mentioned that the same training can be brought to businesses, but there is a fee associated. The students receive intensive customer service training, along with training on seven key life principles, such as Authority, Responsibility, and Freedom. It’s a 7-week program, offered quarterly through the high schools. Meet after school, 3 times a week, 2 ½ to 3 hours per day. The students learn about a new principle each week and create artwork at the end of the week. Then, at the end of the training, they put on some type of exhibit, which varies depending on the group. The Coalition also offers a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior or a recent graduate that has gone through the program. Norma would really like to see students take this project forward to their communities and pass on the teaching. She would also like to employ some of the students to mentor younger students. Looking to break entitlement spirit, which is prevalent in this region and in the younger generation. Try to teach them to be forward-looking and brainstorming how they’re going to market themselves, in an economy where they will be competing with their parents’ age group. The students are provided a certificate of completion at the end of the course. Todd would like to see local buy-in from employers (ex. Paying 10-25 cents more per hour if you’ve completed this training). Norma also mentioned that the Bistro has started open mic nights which are every Friday. If you’d like more information, you can visit www.frhc-coalitionforkids.org.

Next Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for Tuesday January 25th, 2011 @ 8:30 a.m. at Big Sky Bistro. Will send out notification in advance if date or location changes.